

REMARKS:

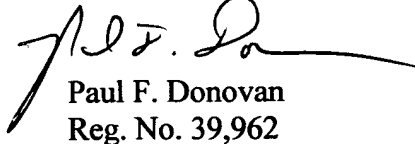
At the time of the Office Action, claims 1-24 were pending. Claims 1-2, 12, 13, 20-22 and 24 stand rejected. Claims 3-11, 13-19, 23 and 24 have been found to contain allowable subject matter. Pursuant to this Amendment, claims 1, 13, 14, 21, 23 and 24 have been amended. Claims 1-24 remain pending.

Claims 13, 21 and 24 have been amended to address the objections raised by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. 112. Removal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-2, 12 and 20-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Barma et al. However, claims 3-11, 14-19 and 23 have been found to contain allowable subject matter. Without agreeing with the Examiner as to what is or is not taught by Barma et al., claim 1 has been amended to include limitations found in objected to claims 3 and 4, and objected to claims 13, 14 and 23 have been rewritten into independent form including the limitations found in base claim 1. Thus, claims 1, 13, 14 and 23 are allowable. Claims 2-12 and 20-22 depend from claim 1, and claims 15-19 depend from claim 14, thus making these claims allowable for the same reasons applied thereto as well as for the additional subject matter recited in each.

Reconsideration of the rejected claims and allowance of all the pending claims is respectfully requested. In the event that there are any remaining issues that can be addressed and expedited by telephone conference, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,


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